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Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Note verbale dated 11 March 2016 from the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations, in its capacity as President Pro Tempore of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to inform him that, on 26 and 27 January 2016, the fourth CELAC Summit was held in Quito. On that occasion, the Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean adopted a paragraph of the "Political Declaration of Quito — Middle of the World", as well as a special declaration on the question of the Malvinas Islands.

In paragraph 75 of the "Political Declaration of Quito — Middle of the World", the Heads of State and Government of CELAC agreed to:

> "Reiterate [their] firm regional support for the legitimate rights of the Argentine Republic in the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, as well as the permanent interest that this dispute be solved by peaceful means and through negotiations, in accordance with resolution 31/49 of the United Nations General Assembly".

The Heads of State and Government of CELAC also adopted the "Special declaration on the question of the Malvinas Islands" (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations would be grateful if you would have this note verbale and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 46.

Annex to the note verbale dated 11 March 2016 from the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish and English]

Special declaration on the question of the Malvinas Islands

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Quito, Ecuador, on occasion of the fourth Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), on 27 January 2016:

1. Reiterate their strongest support for the legitimate rights of the Republic of Argentina in the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, as well as the permanent interest of the countries of the region in having the Governments of the Republic of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland resume negotiations in order to find — as soon as possible — a peaceful and definitive solution to such dispute, pursuant to resolution 2065 (XX) of the United Nations General Assembly and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of American States, as expressed by them in the previous declarations of the Rio Group and the Latin America and Caribbean Summit — especially the Declaration of the Unity Summit, held in Riviera Maya, Mexico, on 23 February 2010 — which are part of the historical heritage of CELAC;

2. In this context, the Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States express their gratitude to the Pro Tempore Presidency to once again ask the United Nations Secretary-General to renew his efforts to accomplish the good offices mission entrusted to him by the General Assembly, through successive resolutions, with a view to the resumption of the negotiation aimed at finding, as soon as possible, a peaceful solution to this dispute, and that he reports on the progress made in the accomplishment of his mission;

3. Furthermore, they reiterate the importance of observing United Nations General Assembly resolution 31/49, which calls on both parties to refrain from adopting decisions that entail the introduction of unilateral modifications to the situation, whilst the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas are subject to the process recommended by the General Assembly;

4. Highlight the permanent constructive attitude and willingness of the Argentine Government to reach, through negotiations, a peaceful and definitive solution to this anachronistic colonial situation on American soil.

Quito, 27 January 2016